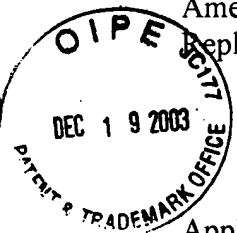


Application No. 10/005,759  
Amendment Transmittal Letter dated December 19, 2003  
Amendment dated December 19, 2003  
Reply to Office Action mailed September 30, 2003

3623  
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/005,759  
Applicant: Michael P. MILLER et al.  
Filed: December 17, 2001  
TC/A.U.: 3623  
Examiner: Michael C. Heck  
Title: ACCELERATED PROCESS IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK

Confirmation No. 7327

Docket No.: 86769-0006  
Customer No.: 24633

**RECEIVED**

DEC 30 2003

**GROUP 3600**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL**

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is an Amendment in response to the Final Office Action mailed September 30, 2003, in the above-identified application.

☐ Applicant petitions for an extension of time, the fees for which are set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a), for the total number of months checked below:

<u>Total Months</u> <u>Requested</u>	<u>Fee for</u> <u>Extension of Time</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> one month	\$ 110.00
<input type="checkbox"/> two months	\$ 410.00
<input type="checkbox"/> three months	\$ 930.00

Extension of time fee due with this request: **\$ 110.00**

If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a Petition therefor.

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Application No. 10/005,759  
Amendment Transmittal Letter dated December 19, 2003  
Amendment dated December 19, 2003  
Reply to Office Action mailed September 30, 2003

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL	26	MINUS	50	= 0	x 18 =	\$ 0.00
INDEP.	3	MINUS	3	= 0	x 84 =	\$ 0.00
TOTAL						\$ 0.00

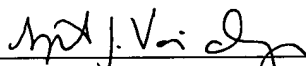
- ☐ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ Attached is \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ for the one-month extension of time.
- ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 50-1349 the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1349.
- ☒ Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.
- ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

**HOGAN & HARTSON LLP**

Dated: December 19, 2003

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD</b> Substitute for Form PTO-875					Application or Docket Number		
<b>CLAIMS AS FILED – PART I</b>							
(Column 1)		(Column 2)		SMALL ENTITY		OR	
OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY							
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	FEE	RATE	FEE	
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a))				\$ _____		\$ _____	
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c))	minus 20 =	•	X \$ _____ =		X \$ _____ =		
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(b))	minus 20 =	•	X \$ _____ =		X \$ _____ =		
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT (37 CFR 1.16(d))			+ \$ _____ =		+ \$ _____ =		
			TOTAL		TOTAL		
* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.							
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED – PART II</b>							
(Column 1)		(Column 2)		SMALL ENTITY		OR	
OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY							
AMENDMENT A	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	•	Minus	**	X \$ _____ =		X \$ _____ =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	•	Minus	***	X \$ _____ =		X \$ _____ =	
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))				+ \$ _____ =		+ \$ _____ =	
				TOTAL ADD'L FEE		TOTAL ADD'L FEE	
(Column 1)		(Column 2)		SMALL ENTITY		OR	
OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY							
AMENDMENT B	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	•	Minus	**	X \$ _____ =		X \$ _____ =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	•	Minus	***	X \$ _____ =		X \$ _____ =	
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))				+ \$ _____ =		+ \$ _____ =	
				TOTAL ADD'L FEE		TOTAL ADD'L FEE	
(Column 1)		(Column 2)		SMALL ENTITY		OR	
OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY							
AMENDMENT C	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	•	Minus	**	X \$ _____ =		X \$ _____ =	
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	•	Minus	***	X \$ _____ =		X \$ _____ =	
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))				+ \$ _____ =		+ \$ _____ =	
				TOTAL ADD'L FEE		TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

\* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.  
 \*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".  
 \*\*\* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".  
 The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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